

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A method for generating a document relating to a patient's medical diagnosis, comprising:

establishing one or more diagnostic codes, each identifying a medical condition;

associating one or more concepts for each diagnostic code that represent the associated medical condition in different terms;

associating one or more contexts for each diagnostic code, each context representing contextual information deemed relevant to the medical condition identified by the code;

generating a set of queries for each of the one or more diagnostic codes using one or more combinations of the medical condition, a subset of the one or more concepts, and a subset of the one or more contexts as search criteria;

submitting the set of queries to one or more databases;

retrieving and storing a list of links to content in the one or more databases that satisfies the criteria specified in the queries;

associating each link in the list with the diagnostic code and context used in the query that retrieved the respective link;

receiving information about a patient utilizing a computer, the information about the patient including diagnosis information based ~~upon~~ on a diagnosis of the patient performed by a health care provider;

~~performing a query function utilizing the computer to retrieve from a database a list of data sources upon receiving the information, the query function based upon the received information about the patient generates and automatically executes a set of queries containing query criteria including contextual information applicable to the received diagnosis information based on the received information about the patient, the set of queries being selected from a set of existing queries that correspond to the received information about the patient to retrieve from the database the list of data sources matching the query criteria; and~~

matching the information about the patient to at least one diagnostic code and at least one context associated with the matching diagnostic code;

selecting a subset of the links associated with the at least one matching diagnostic code and the at least one matching context; and

generating at least one document utilizing the computer, the at least one document containing the ~~list of data sources~~ selected subset of links retrieved from the database and the received information about the patient.

2. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1 wherein the diagnosis information comprises at least one diagnosis code, each diagnosis code indicating a condition of the patient based ~~upon~~ on the diagnosis.

3. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 2 wherein the at least one diagnosis code comprises codes according to the International Classification of Disease (ICD).

4. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 3 wherein the diagnosis information comprises at least one description describing the condition of the patient based ~~upon~~ on the diagnosis performed by the health care provider.

5. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein the information about the patient further comprises information selected from the group consisting of the patient's personal information, prescription information, laboratory information, procedures information, materials and supplies information and injection information.

6. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1 wherein ~~a data source is referenced by each link~~ comprises an address corresponding to a location where the data source data relevant to the diagnostic code and context resides.

7. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 6 wherein the address ~~corresponding to the location where the data source resides~~ comprises a Uniform Resource Locator (URL).

8-9. (Canceled)

10. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1 wherein generating the set of queries comprises:

constructing a set of queries based on the information received.

11. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 10 wherein constructing comprises:
determining at least one diagnosis identifier from the information received.

12. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 11 wherein the at least one diagnosis identifier corresponds to [[a]] one of the diagnosis codes, and the links associated with the corresponding diagnosis code are selected for inclusion in the subset of links based on the correspondence.

13. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 11 wherein the at least one diagnosis identifier corresponds to a diagnosis description.

14. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 11 wherein the at least one diagnosis identifier is included in the diagnosis information received.

15. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 11 wherein the at least one diagnosis identifier is derived from the diagnosis information received.

16. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 11 further comprising:
determining additional diagnosis identifiers that are equivalent to the one or more diagnosis identifiers included in the diagnosis information received[[.]];
matching the additional diagnosis identifiers with one of the concepts;
selecting the links associated with the diagnostic code for the matching concept for inclusion in the subset of links.

17. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1 further comprising:
allowing the patient to access the at least one document via a computer network.
18. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 17 further comprising:
allowing the patient to provide feedback or comments with respect to the
information contained in the at least one document.
19. (Original) The method of claim 18 wherein the computer network is selected from the
group consisting of a local area network, a wide area network, and the Internet.
20. (Canceled)
- 21-37. (Canceled)

38. (Currently Amended) A system comprising:

a first database that stores ~~multiple lists of content links, each list corresponding to a specific code~~ a set of diagnostic codes representing medical conditions, each code having stored therewith at least one conceptual equivalency and at least one context relevant to the medical condition, wherein each diagnostic code is associated with a set of queries constructed using one or more combinations of the medical condition, one of the conceptual equivalencies, and one of the contexts as search criteria, and wherein the first database retrieves and stores a set of links to content in external data sources that satisfies the set of queries, each link associated with the diagnostic code and context that facilitated retrieval of the respective link; and

a first server that receives information about a patient from at least one source, the information about the patient including at least one diagnostic code and a patient-specific context, the first server matches the received diagnostic code and patient-specific context with at least one stored diagnostic code and related context and retrieves from the first database ~~at least one a subset of the list of content links based upon~~ associated with the at least one matching diagnostic code and related context, ~~and the server generates~~ generating at least one document containing the ~~at least one list of retrieved subset of content links retrieved from the first database and the information about the patient~~[[,]], ~~wherein the first server selects a set of existing queries that correspond to information about a medical procedure to retrieve the at least one list of content links;~~

~~the set of queries are generated based on one or more concepts identified from a definition or a conceptual equivalent of the definition of the at least one code and one or more contexts that characterize one or more selected concepts associated with the code.~~

39. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 38 wherein the at least one document generated is stored in a second database.

40. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 38 wherein the at least one document is made accessible to the patient via a computer network.

41. (Original) The system of claim 38 wherein the computer network is the Internet.

42. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 38, wherein the first server includes a machine-readable medium comprising instructions ~~which~~ that, when executed by a machine, cause the machine to perform operations, the instructions to comprise:

logic to receive the information about the patient from the at least one source;

logic to generate a set of queries based ~~upon~~ on the ~~at least one~~ at least one definition that corresponds to the at least one code received; and

logic to execute the set of queries to retrieve from the first database the ~~at least one list~~ subset of content links that corresponds to the set of queries.

43. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 38 wherein the ~~at least one list of stored~~ content links ~~that is stored in the first database~~ associated with each diagnostic code ~~[[is]]~~ are identified using a set of queries generated from the at least one ~~definition~~ conceptual equivalency that is associated with the ~~at least one~~ respective diagnostic code.

44. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 38 wherein the set of queries is used to search at least one database on the World Wide Web to identify a potential list of content links.

45. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 44 wherein the potential list of content links is used to select the ~~at least one list of~~ content links that ~~[[is]]~~ are stored in the first database.

46. (Currently Amended) A machine-readable medium comprising instructions ~~which~~ that, when executed by a machine, cause the machine to perform operations comprising:

storing a set of diagnostic codes representing medical conditions, each diagnostic code having an associated code definition, one or more conceptual equivalencies, and one or more contexts relevant to the medical condition;

generating and storing at least one query for each diagnostic code utilizing as search criteria a combination of the at least one of the associated conceptual equivalencies and at least one context;

retrieving and storing a list of data source links from one or more external data sources that satisfy the query criteria;

associating each retrieved data source link with the context and diagnostic code used to generate the query that retrieved the link;

receiving information about a patient, the information about the patient including diagnosis information and at least one patient-specific context based ~~upon~~ on a diagnosis of the patient performed by a health care provider;

upon receiving the information, performing a query function to retrieve from a database a ~~list subset of the~~ data source[[s]] links ~~based upon the received information about the patient~~ associated with the stored diagnostic codes and contexts matching the received information, the machine being operable to:

frame a set of queries containing query criteria based on the received information about the patient, the set of queries ~~being selected from a set of existing queries~~ the stored queries associated with at least one stored diagnostic code and context that correspond to the received information about the patient; ~~and~~

automatically execute the framed set of queries to retrieve ~~from the database~~ the list of data source[[s]] links ~~matching~~ satisfying the query criteria; and

generating at least one document comprising the list of data source[[s]] links retrieved from the database.

47. (Currently Amended) The machine-readable medium of claim 46 wherein the diagnosis information comprises at least one diagnosis code, each diagnosis code indicating a condition of the patient based ~~upon~~ on the diagnosis.

48 (Currently Amended) The machine-readable medium of claim 46 wherein the diagnosis information comprises at least one description describing the patient's conditions or problems based ~~upon~~ on the diagnosis performed by the health care provider.

49. (Currently Amended) The machine-readable medium of claim 48 wherein performing the query function comprises:

generating a set of queries containing query criteria based on the received information about the patient; and

executing the set of queries to retrieve from the database the list of data source[[s]] links matching the query criteria.

50-56. (Canceled)

57. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 13 wherein the diagnosis description describes an agent that is causally related to the diagnosis information.

58. (Currently Amended) The method of claim [[20]] 1 wherein the contextual information includes at least one of a weight, an age and a sex.

59. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1 wherein the at least one document includes a list of data sources associated with a parent diagnosis code [[if]] when a list of data sources associated with a child diagnosis code cannot be identified, wherein the parent diagnosis code is included in a first classification in a hierarchy of diagnosis code classifications that includes a second classification that includes the diagnosis code.

60. (Currently Amended) A system comprising:

means to establish one or more diagnostic codes, each diagnostic code identifying a medical condition;

means to associate one or more concepts for each diagnostic code that represent the associated medical condition in different terms;

means to associate one or more contexts for each diagnostic code, each context representing contextual information deemed relevant to the medical condition identified by the code;

means to generate a set of queries for each of the one or more diagnostic codes using one or more combinations of the medical condition, a subset of the one or more concepts, and a subset of the one or more contexts as search criteria;

means to submit the set of queries to one or more databases;

means to retrieve a list of links to content in the one or more databases that satisfies the criteria specified in the queries;

means to associate each link in the list with the diagnostic code and context used in the query that retrieved the respective link;

means to receive information about a patient, the information about the patient comprises diagnosis information based ~~upon~~ on a diagnosis of the patient performed by a health care provider;

~~means to perform a query function to retrieve from a database a list of data sources based upon the received information about the patient; wherein upon receiving the diagnosis information at the means to receive, the means to perform generates a set of queries containing query criteria based on the received information about the patient, the set of queries being selected from a set of existing queries that correspond to the received information about the patient and automatically execute the set of queries to retrieve from the database the list of data sources matching the query criteria; and~~

means to match the information about the patient to at least one diagnostic code and at least one context associated with the diagnostic code;

means to select a subset of the links associated with the at least one matching diagnostic code and the associated matching context; and

means to generate at least one document containing ~~the list of data sources~~ selected subset of links retrieved from the database and the received information about the patient.